British territory and forty-three miles of the nearest Dutch territory.[2] Sibutu in the Sulu Archipelago of the Philippines is just north of the equator and but a step from Borneo.

Parenthetically it may be interpolated that scientists believe that the Philippines must have been connected at some time by land with Borneo and Formosa, and these in turn, like the Japanese Islands, must have been connected with the mainland of Asia.

From the Philippines to Hongkong direct is six hundred thirty miles, and from the Philippines by way of the usual ports of call to San Francisco is eight thousand and ninety-four miles. The voyage from San Francisco to Manila is one of three weeks' duration. Giant airway clippers starting at San Francisco and calling at Honolulu, Midway, Wake, and Guam before reaching Manila, have shortened the trip to a few days.

The boundaries of the Philippine Archipelago are those set forth in Article in of the Treaty of Peace concluded between the United States and Spain on December 10, 1898, together with the group of islands known as Cagayan Sulu and Sibutu, lying off the north coast of Borneo, embraced in the treaty between the United States and Spain of November 7, 1900. Recently the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague awarded the little island of Palmas to the Netherlands, and the United States and Great Britain entered into a convention by which the latter country relinquished claim to the Turtle Islands and the Mangsee Islands, situated between North Borneo and Sulu.

[2] Shortest distances from Philippine Islands territory to foreign territory, scaled January 26, 1935, from best available charts, U. S. Coast and Geodetic Survey, Manila Field Station:

Great Bakkungaan Island to Little Bakkungaan (British), 1.4 statute miles.

Great Bakkungaan Island to Borneo Mainland (British), 11.3 statute miles.

Y> Ami Island to Sho Antau Su (Japanese), 61.4. statute miles.

Balut Island to Ariaga Island (Dutch), 43.1 statute miles.